

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method of customizing a speech based user interface to an application system by means of an input device, said application system comprising a speech user interface subsystem, a profile database, and application components, the method comprising the steps of:
 - accessing the speech user interface subsystem from an input device;
 - selecting a profile of user-defined functions from the profile database for customization;
 - customizing the user-defined functions for use within said profile;
 - saving said profile in said profile database of said application system; and
 - providing said profile to said speech based user interface for presentation upon subsequent access by the user.
2. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of customizing comprises specifying information presented in a status summary.
3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of customizing comprises customizing a command menu structure in a dual tone multi frequency driven user interface.
4. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of customizing comprises specifying a vocabulary structure in a speech recognition driven user interface.
5. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said step of customizing comprises creating an additional function that accesses elements external to said application system.
6. (original) A method of providing a customized speech based user interface to an application system, said application system comprising a speech user interface subsystem, a profile database, and application components, the method comprising the steps of:
 - receiving an access request from a user;

retrieving a customized profile for the user from said database, said customized profile comprising user-defined functions;

presenting said user-defined functions via said customized speech based user interface in accordance with said customized profile; and

providing access to data elements presented in said user-defined functions.

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise a status summary played upon successful access to the system.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise a command menu structure in a dual tone multi frequency driven user interface.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise a vocabulary structure in a speech recognition driven user interface.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein said user-defined functions comprise additional functions that access elements external to said application system.

11. (currently amended) A communication system comprising:

an input device;

an application system including

a profile database comprising a plurality of profiles of user-defined functions of a speech-based user interface for use with said application system;

customization means permitting customization of said user-defined functions;

and

a speech user interface subsystem for presentation of one of said plurality of profiles;

and

an audio output device;

wherein said application system comprises:

a profile database comprising a plurality of profiles of user-defined functions of

a speech-based user interface for use with said application system;

~~customization means permitting customization of said user defined functions;
and
a speech user interface subsystem.~~

12. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 11 wherein said application system is a unified communications system.

13. (original) A communication system according to claim 11 wherein said application system is a unified messaging system.

14. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 13 wherein said user defined functions comprise messaging system functions.

15. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said selection step is performed automatically.

16. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said customizing step comprises selecting functions from a menu.

17. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16 wherein said selecting functions step comprises selecting the order selected functions are presented.

18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 further including a step of creating an additional function provides information or entertainment services from ~~said~~ elements external to said application system.

19. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said application system comprises an automobile control system, and said user defined functions comprise automobile system functions.

20. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said application system is located remote from a user and further comprising a network interface for communication between said application system and said user.